

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 are pending. By this amendment, claim 1 is amended.

The Office Action indicates that claim 1 of the application is rejected under obviousness type double patenting over patented claim 12 (the patent number is not identified). It is assumed that the Examiner meant to refer to the parent patent, US Pat. 6,681,139. Attached hereto is a terminal disclaimer regarding the '139 patent, which overcomes the rejection. If the Examiner is using another patent in the rejection, the right to withdraw the terminal disclaimer is reserved.

The Office Action rejects claims 1 under 35 USC 102, as being anticipated by McCreery et al. (USP 5,787,253). Claim 2 is rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over McCreery et al.. in view of Maria et al. (USP 6,092,110). Claim 3 is rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over McCreery, in view of Bandhi et al. (USP 6,112,218). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites a message storing part of taking-in and storing each of said messages transmitted on said transmission line, each of said stored messages including at least one message-sending node, a message-receiving node and a condition information accompanying said data, a registration part for registering data of message-receiving conditions in advance and at least two comparison parts for comparing a condition data which is registered in advance in said registration part and said identifier stored in said message. McCreery and the other applied references do not disclose or suggest these novel features. The present invention provides an autonomous (self contained) distributed system having a high degree of freedom wherein the sending and receiving conditions can be set very flexibly. In contrast, McCreery discloses the ordinary system for sending and receiving the data in which the addresses of the

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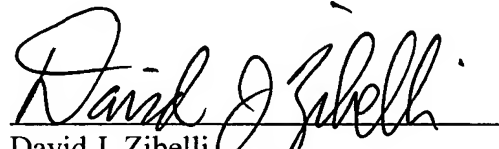
sending part and the receiving part are included in the messages.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 and 1.17, or credit any overpayment to Kenyon & Kenyon Deposit Account No. 11-0600. A duplicate copy of this authorization page is attached.

Should the Examiner have any further questions or comments, he is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated.

Respectfully submitted,

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